

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /071 W

----- 021776

R 240740Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 891

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4560

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AS, KS, KN

SUBJECT: VISIT OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE

1. AMBASSADOR HAD BRIEF OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH WILLESEE AND PRINCIPAL FOREIGN OFFICE ADVISOR COOK WILLESEE'S VISIT TO PYONGYANG. WILLESEE WAS PLEASED WITH VISIT AND IMPRESSED BY PYONGYANG AS CITY AND BY FONMIN HO TAM. HE SAID THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH NORTH KOREANS BROUGHT OUT BASIC DIFFERENCES IN THEIR VIEWPOINTS BUT WERE USEFUL IN OPENING DIALOGUE. NORTH KOREANS ARE ADAMANT ON PRESSING FOR UNIFICATION, BUT STRESSED THEIR PEACEFUL INTENTIONS. ONLY DURING LAST CHAT WITH HO TAM IN AUTOMOBILE RIDE TO AIRPORT DID HO TAM ACKNOWLEDGE THAT PEACEFUL UNIFICATION WOULD TAKE A LONG TIME DUE TO GREAT GAP IN NORTH-SOUTH SOCIAL SYSTEMS. COOK WAS LESS IMPRESSED BUT POINTED OUT NORTH KOREANS APPEARED MORE "PEACEFUL" PUBLICLY THAN SOUTH. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT AFTER BEING ASKED BY NORTH KOREANS WHETHER THEY WISHED TO SEE KIM IL SUNG, AUSTRALIANS WERE NOT RPT NOT GIVEN AN
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APPOINTMENT. AS A RESULT, WILLESEE LIMITED HIS

COURTESY CALL ON NORTH KOREAN VICE PRESIDENT TO
TEN MINUTES.

2. WILLESEE VISIT TO SEOUL WAS LESS SUCCESSFUL FROM
ROKG VIEWPOINT. FONMIN EXPRESSED HIS STRONG IRRITATION TO
AMBASSADOR AND ZURHELLEN WITH WILLESEE DELIBERATE TURNDOWN
AT LAST MINUTE "COURTESY CALL" OF EITHER CO-SPONSORSHIP OF UN
ADMISSION RESOLUTION OR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION ON UNC;
ALTHOUGH GOA PROMISED VOTE FOR FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. FONMIN
ALSO MENTIONED THAT WILLESEE HAD BROUGHT MESSAGE FROM HO TAM
STATING THAT NORTH KOREANS DESIRE TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH
SOUTH WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS. WILLESEE EMPHASIZED TO ROKG
DESIRABILITY OF PURSUING DIALOGUE INDICATING
NORTH SOUNDED MORE PEACEFUL. FONMIN QUESTIONED
AUSTRALIAN ROLE AS INTERMEDIARY, POINTING OUT
IF NORTH WISHED TO RESUME DIALOGUE, IT COULD EASILY
COMMUNICATE THIS VIEW VIA HOT LINE.

3. MOFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BUREAU DIRECTOR
HAN U-SOK TOLD POL COUNS JUNE 23 THAT HE AND OTHER MOFA
OFFICIALS ALSO WERE DISMAYED BY WHAT HAN DESCRIBED
AS WILLESEE'S "BRAINWASHING" AT THE HANDS OF THE NORTH
KOREANS. HAN SAID THAT WILLESEE SEEMED TO HAVE SWALLOWED
THE NORTH KOREAN LINE THAT THE SOUTH WAS RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE BREAKING OFF OF THE DIALOGUE. HE NOTED IN THIS
REGARD THAT WILLESEE HAD URGED THE ROKG TO RESUME THE
TALKS WITH PYONGYANG. HAN ALSO FELT THAT HO TAM'S
MESSAGE ON RESUMING TALKS WITHOUT PRE-CONDITIONS WAS MEANT
TO SWAY THE AUSTRALIANS AND WAS NOT INTENDED TO BE CONVEYED
TO SEOUL.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY IMPRESSIONS ON PYONGYANG
AND SEOUL VISITS WHICH EMBASSY CANBERRA ABLE TO GLEAN FROM
AUSTRALIANS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL REVERSION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SEOUL04560
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750218-0740
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750621/aaaaasri.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WILLESEE
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, AS, KS, KN, (HO TAM), (WILLESEE, DONALD R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006